



Common Threads

AmeriCorps School Farmer Position Description

Common Threads connects kids to healthy food in the garden, in the kitchen, and at the table.

We want kids to grow up making food choices that are good for their bodies, their communities, and the environment. Founded in 2006 and based in Bellingham, Washington, Common Threads is a grassroots, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes a “seed to table” approach to food production, good nutrition, and environmental stewardship. Most of our programs take place on public school grounds, during the school day. Additionally, Common Threads runs after-school gardening and cooking programs and spring/summer camps in our school gardens and at our urban farm site.

The School Farmer AmeriCorps member will support school-based gardening and greenhouse management. The AmeriCorps School Farmer will serve in close collaboration with Common Threads' Food Education team (staff and AmeriCorps service members) by taking a lead role in the development and maintenance of robust agricultural spaces at Common Threads' growing number of partner schools (currently 21 school gardens and two greenhouses).

Responsibilities

This AmeriCorps School Farmer position will support Common Threads' mission by:

- Developing, maintaining, and crop planning for school gardens and greenhouses
- Developing training for Food Educators on a variety of farming and gardening topics (soil health, crop rotation, etc.)
- Teaching kids about healthy food, primarily in a garden environment (some cooking will also be involved)

The service member will serve in a support and collaboration role with the AmeriCorps Food Educators - the distinction of this particular position being that the School Farmer will be selected based largely on his/her agricultural skills (as opposed to teaching and/or cooking skills which are also highly desired.)

Skills and Qualifications

The ideal candidate will

- Be passionate, committed and creative
- Have a solid background working with kids
- Have strong agricultural skills and experience in growing food

Previous service members have asked that we please say up front that this is an intense and rewarding position. A love of long hours and being outside is essential, as is a tolerance for curve balls (from kids and adults!)

To Apply

- This position is contingent on funding and will also require an application via the AmeriCorps website. Applicants who submit resumes and cover letters will be informed once the AmeriCorps enrollment process is open - likely in April.
- Send resume and cover letter to Laura Plaut, Executive Director, 516 E. North Street, Bellingham, WA 98225 or laura@commonthreadsfarm.org
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled. Do not delay in submitting your application.

Recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce is a high priority at Common Threads. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, political affiliation, marital status, age or any other basis prohibited by law.